

BOOK REVIEWS

The following 3 books are all produced by the Reader's Digest Association, Inc., Pleasantville, New York 10570. They are superbly illustrated, and each offers some unique feature to the naturalist.

Fascinating World of Animals; a unique "safari" through our strange and surprising animal kingdom. 1971. By 32 major contributors. 428 p., with thousands of color photos and drawings; 10" \times 12½"; \$

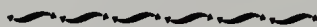
This huge book is packed with an enormous variety of facts and illustrations, often of rare or unusual animals. It is divided into 3 parts: I) The 10 wildlife regions of the world (p. 12-319); II) The past, present, and future of animal life (p. 320-371); III) The animal kingdom (p. 372-421). The latter is exceptionally well done, with fine line drawings illustrating all the orders, each of which is shown on a single chart. Some entomologists might quarrel over according Class rank to Collembola, Diplura, Protura, and Thysanura, but they would want this beautiful book on their shelves.

Secrets of the Sea; marvels and mysteries of oceans and islands. 1972. 384 p., over 500 photos, paintings, diagrams, and maps; 9" \times 11¼"; \$

The title of this book would entice primarily marine biologists, and they would be justly rewarded. However, about half the book (p. 190-371) deals with islands and their respective faunas and floras. The general supervision was by Scientific Editor, Durward L. Allen, with 14 consultants, and Part I (The Living Sea) by W. J. Cromie, and Part II (Wonders of Island Life) by W. H. Amos. The superb color photos add the "topping" for this naturalists' dessert.

Scenic Wonders of America; an illustrated guide to our natural splendors. 1973. 575 p.; 400 full color photos; 8" \times 11¼"; \$

This latest volume is really outstanding in the extent of its coverage and the excellence of its photos of some of the world's unbelievable and awe-inspiring scenery. There are 50 easy-to-read maps and a 23 page campground directory. It has already been reviewed by many famous people, including Lowell Thomas, Billy Graham, Stewart Udall, etc. I cannot say it better than Norman Rockwell: "... really beautiful book and will be treasured by everyone who owns it."—R. E. Woodruff



Insect Fauna of St. Croix, United States Virgin Islands. 1970. George W. Miskimen and Richard M. Bond. 114 p. Issued as Vol. 13, Part I of the "Scientific Survey of Porto Rico and the Virgin Islands." Published by the New York Academy of Sciences, 2 E. 63 St., N. Y., N. Y. 10021. Price: \$2.00.

Although published in 1970, this volume was just brought to my attention and deserves wider notice. It is primarily a checklist of the species recorded from St. Croix, with a short annotation for each. The 309 species of Coleoptera are treated on p. 78-101.—R. E. Woodruff